(c) and (d) The visit of the US Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Affairs Ms. Lynn Davis was postponed due to scheduling problems faced by the US side. The visit is expected to take place on mutually convenient dates later in 1985. Rescheduling of visits in this manner becomes necessary from time to time, and both sides understand the reasons for it.

Investment by NRIS for setting up of food processing units in U.P. and Gujarat

419. SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether various NRI Groups have come forward to invest in the food processing sector in tribal and non-urban areas of Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat during 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details of scuh proposals so far received by Government; and

(c) by when the NRI investment offered would factually reach the tribal and rural areas of Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh?;

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) During 1994-95, two proposals for NRI investment of Rs. 262.5 lakhs for setting up of Food Processing Units in the non-urban areas of Gujarat have been approved. In the state of Uttar Pradesh, no proposal for NRI investment has been approved in the food processing sector.

(c) Normally it takes 2-3 years for implementation of the project.

Finalisation of Draft National River Action Plan

420. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the draft National River Action Plan has been finalised;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the date from which the Action Plan is expected to be implemented; and

(d) the steps taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes Sir, the Central Government has approved the National River Conservation Plan.

(b) The National River Conservation Plan is a centrally sponsored scheme on the basis of equal sharing of capital cost of works between the Central and the concerned Stats Governments. The operation and maintenance cost of the facilities will be fully borne by the States. Under the Action Plan, the pollution abatement works such as interception, diversion and treatment of municipal waste water, low cost sanitation, crematoria, river front development and afforestation etc. are to taken up in 46 towns located on identified polluted stretches of 18 rivers in 10 States. The approved cost of the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) is about Rs. 772 crores.

(c) The implementation of works in the States will begin soon after the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) and estimates are received from the States and sanctioned by the Central Government. While the sanction of detailed estimates for works under smaller schemes such as low-cost sanitation, crematoria, river front development, aforestation etc. will take about a month from the day of receipt of the estimates from the States, it will take longer time to sanction estimates of larger schemes such as interception diversion and treatment.

(d) The concerned State Governments have been requested to prepare DPRs of schemes expeditiously.